

House Resolution 257

By: Representative Morris of the 155th

A RESOLUTION

1 Recognizing the contributions of Georgia's Vidalia Onion industry and declaring May
2 "Vidalia Onion Month" in the State of Georgia; and for other purposes.

3 WHEREAS, the Vidalia Onion was named Georgia's Official State Vegetable by the state
4 legislature in 1990; and

5 WHEREAS, Vidalia Onions have developed an international reputation as the "world's
6 sweetest onion"; and

7 WHEREAS, Vidalia Onions owe their mild flavor to the unique combination of soils and
8 climate found in the 20 county production area in Georgia; and

9 WHEREAS, Vidalia Onions are produced in the following counties in Southeast Georgia:
10 Appling, Bacon, Bulloch, Candler, Emanuel, Evans, Jeff Davis, Montgomery, Tattnall,
11 Telfair, Toombs, Treutlen, and Wheeler, as well as portions of Dodge, Jenkins, Laurens,
12 Long, Pierce, Screven, and Wayne counties; and

13 WHEREAS, approximately 143 growers cultivate Vidalia Onions on approximately 16,368
14 acres of land; and

15 WHEREAS, the Vidalia Onion industry's annual harvest brings some \$80 million directly
16 into Georgia's economy; and

17 WHEREAS, the economic impact from related downstream marketing activities is estimated
18 at \$188 to \$200 million; and

19 WHEREAS, the onions from each year's harvest reach the nation's grocery shelves in early
20 May and are available throughout the year.

1 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES that
2 the members of this body recognize the significance of the Vidalia Onion to the state's
3 economy and hereby declare the month of May "Vidalia Onion Month" in the State of
4 Georgia.

5 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk of the House of Representatives is authorized
6 and directed to transmit an appropriate copies of this resolution to the Toombs-Montgomery
7 Chamber of Commerce, the Mayor of the City of Vidalia, and the Vidalia Onion Festival
8 Committee.